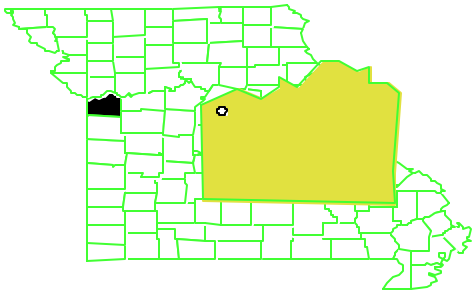
# CONSERVATION CHEMICAL CO.

**MISSOURI**
**EPA ID# MOD000829705**

**EPA Region 7**
**City: 3900 Front Street**
**Kansas City, Missouri**
**County: Jackson County**
**Other Names: CCC**

**07/25/2002**



## SITE DESCRIPTION

The Conservation Chemical Company site, located in eastern Kansas City, operated as a chemical storage and disposal facility from 1960 until 1980. The owners began waste disposal operations almost immediately after building chemical treatment basins, a process area, and a roadway ramp. Waste disposal basins, which either were unlined or poorly lined, were used to store and receive wastes, and also served as drying beds and containers for by-product sludges. Many operating records were destroyed in a 1970 fire; those records that survived listed organic chemicals, solvents, acids, caustics, metal hydroxides, and cyanide compounds as some of the materials accepted for disposal at the site. Reports also indicate that pesticides, herbicides, waste oils, organic solvents, halogenated compounds, arsenic, and elemental phosphorus were handled by the facility, as well as pressurized cylinders and other metal containers placed in the lagoons. Information is incomplete, but it is estimated that the facility handled at least 48,000,000 gallons of liquids and sludges and 1,144 tons of solids. About 93,000 cubic yards of materials including drums, bulk liquids, sludges, and solids were buried at the site. By-products from any treatment processes used on the waste materials also were dumped on site.

In 1977, the Missouri Clean Water Commission ordered the site closed and covered. An attempt was made by the owner to neutralize hazardous chemicals by blending some wastes. To stabilize the upper waste layers on the site, acidic metal finishing wastes were mixed with fly ash and certain sludges, which produced a mixture consisting largely of gypsum.

The site is located in the 100-year flood plain of the Missouri River, about 500 feet away from the river's banks, and near its confluence with the Little Blue River. The site itself was raised about 10 feet above the surrounding area, but most of it would be immersed during a flood. Private wells provide drinking water to approximately 120 people located within 3 miles of the property. The Courtney Bend

well field is downstream from the site; it supplies drinking water to the City of Independence, which is located 5 miles from the site.

**Site Responsibility:**

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

**NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 06/24/1988

**Final Date:** 10/04/1989

**Deleted Date:**

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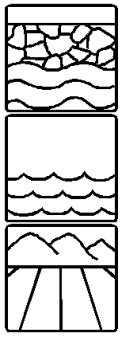
# THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS



Ground water both on and off the site contains: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, cyanide, phenolic compounds, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including vinyl chloride and trichloroethylene. Surface and subsurface soil on the site contained all of the contaminants listed above, as well as dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Contaminants entered the Missouri River via ground water that feeds the river. The Missouri River is used locally and regionally for recreation, industry, irrigation, and as a municipal water supply. People on or near the site may have been exposed by coming into direct contact with contaminated soils, or eating food grown in contaminated soil, or eating game that fed on contaminated plants before site cleanup.

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# CLEANUP APPROACH

**Response Action Status**

Entire Site: The EPA selected a remedy for this site in 1987, which featured surface cleaning including demolition and disposal of existing buildings, tanks, and debris and placing them on site below a clean soil cap; installing a withdrawal well system designed to keep ground water from moving away from the site; building a ground water extraction and treatment system to remove contaminants; and monitoring the quality and level of off-site ground water. The surface cleanup began in early 1989 and was completed by the summer of 1989. Installation of the well networks was started in 1989 and was completed in early 1990. Construction of the treatment plant began in 1989 and was completed in early

1990.

The ground water extraction system will be in operation for 30 years, after which the EPA will evaluate if cleanup goals have been met.

**Site Facts:** In November 1982, the EPA filed suit against the parties it deemed responsible for the site contamination; these defendants in turn sued a group of other potentially responsible parties in 1984. By August 1985, the defendants had agreed to design and conduct cleanup activities on the site that included constructing a slurry wall and reimbursing the EPA for its costs to date. However, new information about the expense and construction difficulty associated with the slurry wall caused a delay. After additional negotiations, the potentially responsible parties agreed to perform a cleanup based on hydraulic control through extraction wells.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS

Construction of the remedies selected by the EPA to clean up the Conservation Chemical site has been completed. These actions have eliminated surface contamination and have halted further pollution of surface and ground water resources. The EPA and the potentially responsible parties are actively monitoring the effectiveness of the continuing ground water cleanup. A combined five and ten year review report was completed in February 2000.

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# SITE REPOSITORY

Mid-Continent Public Library,
317 W. Highway 24,
Independence, MO 64050

Superfund Records Center
901 N. 5th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
(913)551-4038

# REGIONAL CONTACTS

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|---|---|
| **SITE MANAGER:** | Steve Auchterlonie |
| **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** | auchterlonie.steve@epa.gov. |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** | (913) 551-7778 |
| **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR:** | Hattie Thomas |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** | thomas.hattie@epa.gov |
| **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** | (913) 551-7003 |
| **STATE CONTACT:** | Candice McGhee |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** | (573) 751-3176 |

# MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

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|---|---|
| **STATE:** | MO |
| | 0704 |
| **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:** | 05 |
| **EPA ORGANIZATION:** | SFD-MOKS/SUPR |

# MODIFICATIONS

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|---|---|---|---|
| **Created by:** | Karla Asberry/SUPRFUND/R7/US EPA/US | **Created Date:** | 10/21/1997 10:36 AM |

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| **Last Modified by:** | Steve Auchterlonie/SUPR/R7/USEPA/US | **Last Modified Date:** | 07/25/2002 01:51 PM |